

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 05697 090041Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 EB-08 SCS-06 CA-01 HA-05  
SSO-00 /034 W

-----046664 090050Z /62

O 051525Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8312

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 5697

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT PARA 1)

AF/W FOR AMBASSADOR EASUM  
E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: CASC, EFIN, NI (LEFEVRE, LOUIS)  
SUBJECT: LEFEVRE CASE

REF: (A) STATE 113143, (B) LAGOS 5621

1. EMBOFF MET WITH FRED EGBE MAY 5 AND DISCUSSED HIS MARCH A31 LETTER TO ASSISTANT INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE. EGBE SURPRISED THAT AIG HAD COPY OF LETTER. ALTHOUGH EGBE CLAIMED THAT HIS COPY WAS SEIZED BY POLICE ALONG WITH SEVERAL FILES EARLY APRIL, HE WAS ABLE TO CONFIRM SUBSTANCE OF STATEMENT AS DESCRIBED PARA 4 REF A. NONETHELESS, EGBE MAINTAINS THAT 450,000 NAIRA TRANSACTION WAS A LOAN, NOT A FEE OR COMMISSION AS CHARACTERIZED IN LETTER. EGBE EXPLAINED AWAY CONTRADICTION BY STATING HE HAD WRITTEN LETTEN IN CIRCUMSTANCES OF PRESSURE AND EXTREME FATIGUE AFTER PROLONGED INTERROGATION BY POLICE, WHO SUGGESTED TO HIM THAT 450,000 NAIRA WAS A FEE OR COMMISSION RELATED TO 30,000 NAIRA MITZER COMMISSION. POLICE AT TIME WERE TRYING TO CHARGE EGBE AND LEFEVRE WITH FOREIGN EXCHANGE VIOLATION BUT LATER DROPPED ATTEMPT AFTER CONTINUED INVESTIGATION PROVED FRUITLESS.

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2. EGBE SHOWED EMBOFF LETTER FROM AIIC MANAGING DIRECTOR RITTER DATED APRIL 27 WHICH STATED IN SUBSTANCE THAT THE 450,000 NAIRA WAS A LOAN, AND THAT THE TRANSACTION WAS LEGAL. EGBE WILL USE LETTER TO BUTTRESS HIS DEFENSE DURING JUNE 23 HEARING.

3. EGBE ALSO CONSIDERING USING RITTER LETTER AS PART OF

PUBLISHED REFUTATION TO BRIEF ARTICLE IN MAY 5 NEW  
NIGERIAN WHICH REPORTS CONSPIRACY AND STEALING CHARGE  
BROUGHT AGAINST EGBE AND LEFEVRE. COMMENT: ARTICLE  
IS A STRAIGHT UNBIASED NEWS STORY. NEITHER WE NOR EGBE  
KNOW IF STORY DELIBERATELY LEAKED TO PRESS OR IF SO,  
WHY. END COMMENT.

4. RE PARA 10 REF B, EGBE STATED UNEQUIVOCALLY THAT  
LEGAL PROCEEDINGS ON JUNE 23 WILL BE A FULL HEARING AT  
A MAGISTRATE'S COURT, NOT A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION  
IN A MAGISTRATE'S COURT.  
WYMAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRADE COMPLAINTS, INVESTIGATIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 113143, 78 LAGOS 5621  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014